

TITLE: WHAT IS WASTE?

Grade level: K-3

GOAL: Students learn what garbage is and where it goes.

MATERIALS: Children should bring in old magazines and clean trash like newspaper, cardboard, stationery, cans, glass, and plastic. Teacher also needs magnets, paper bags. (Students should only bring in cleaned items. Assign certain trash to certain students so that 1/4th is paper, 1/4th, glass, 1/4th, metal, and 1/4th, plastic.)

DISCUSSION:

Q - Who knows what waste is garbage?

Q - What are some other names we have for waste?

Q - Where do we put our classroom waste?

Q - What happens to our waste when it leaves the school?

Q - What happens to our waste when it leaves our home?

Q - What kinds of waste do we throw away at home?

Write them on the blackboard.

Q - Where does it go?

Q - Has anyone ever seen a place where garbage is taken? Discuss types of facilities - landfill and waste to energy plants.

ACTIVITY:

1. Have students wear gloves & pick-up trash around school grounds or nearby park.

Discuss what sort of trash they found and why it might be there (litter).

2. Have the children draw their impressions of a dump or make a collage of pictures of products from a magazine jumbled together like in a dump.

3. Have the children sort waste they have brought in into categories such as paper, metal, glass, plastic. Have them see which objects are attracted to a magnet. Play a game where objects are placed in a paper bag and the children use only their sense of touch to determine if it is glass, metal, plastic, or paper. (If children are confused as to types of material, concentrate on plastic versus glass.) Have the children trace outlines of the objects and make pictures of them to color.